



THE Tuzla Times

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"The Wings of Task Force Eagle"



(U.S. Air Force image by Capt. John Pope)

SrA. Jeff Goetsch directs sand being layed to cover and protect airfield lighting cables. Goetsch orchestrated a project move the cables for an upcoming airfield modification.

CE airman gets chance to excel

by Capt. John Pope

4100th Group (P) Public Affairs

Being deployed can offer challenges and responsibilities not available at a person's home station. Junior Air Force members can be placed in charge of large projects they wouldn't even be considered for in a larger unit back home.

Case in point, SrA. Jeff "High Voltage" Goetsch, interior/exterior electrician with 4100th Prime Beef (P), was recently asked to design and implement a plan for runway lighting here at Tuzla AB.

"Never in a million years would I be in charge of a project like this at home," said Goetsch, who is deployed from the 100th Civil Engineering Squadron, RAF Mildenhall. "This is the first exterior project I've ever had to engineer. It's big stuff, but it's good for my career. It lets me know I can handle the big projects; little projects won't even be a worry."

The project involves moving the taxiway lights at Delta Ramp back to make room for a scheduled widening of the surface.

"In order for bigger aircraft to be able to redeploy here, the taxiways need to be widened. That requires the taxiway lights to be moved with the widening, which means running all new cable for the lights and putting earthtape down (to ground the system). We also had to resplice all

the edge lights on the parallel. When we widen the taxiways, we have to make sure the parallels still work," said Goetsch.

While pleased with the success of the project so far, Goetsch admits that he's had to learn a few things as he went.

"Yesterday, I had to find sand to put on the cables to protect them from scratching," he said.

Charlie ramp is next. With it will come new challenges for Goetsch and his team, as they tackle Tuzla's busiest ramp.

"It's going to be the big one. We have to lay all the same cables, plus the approach lights and Visual Approach Slope Indicator (VASI) lights run through there. We're going to have to dig them up individually and make the splices," he said.

In addition to planning large projects, Goetsch is also getting a chance to try his hand as a supervisor. He manages the day to day work of two local nationals, Rasim Salihovic and Rado Galusic.

"The Bosnians work for me. If they weren't here, I'd be lost. They've been here for 25 years," he said.

"I speak German and Rasim worked for a German contractor for 5 years, but we electricians can understand each other anyway. It's kind of amazing," he said.



Changes to the Air Force evaluation system announced

by MSgt. Ed "Body Count" Herring
4100th Group (P) PERSCO

Headquarters Air Force Personnel Center recently announced changes to the enlisted and officer evaluation systems that you should be aware of. Some changes will take place immediately, others in the near future.

Enlisted members who receive a "2" or "1" overall rating may receive new Enlisted Performance Report (EPR) after 120 days if their commander feels they have shown significant improvement.

Also, a warning -- the term "Article 15" is no longer prohibited from being used when preparing EPRs and may be included from now on. The evaluator's emphasis should be on the behavior or action that led to the non-judicial punishment.

On the officer side of the house, effective July 1 Officer Performance Feedback notices must be signed by both the rater and the ratee, then be returned to the unit orderly room to be field in the ratee's PIF.

Effective now, raters are allowed to review the ratee's career brief when writing the Officer Performance Report (OPR).

For more information, please call SrA. Roberto "Body Count, Jr." Rodriguez or myself at Ext .133.

Task Force Eagle Scoreboard



Scheduled:	3,131
Total Flown:	2,576
PAX:	15,481
Cargo (Short Tons):	23,118
Vehicles:	1,273

Misuse of government card can lead to criminal charges

By Capt. Mary M. Spangler and Joel R. Gonzalez

United Kingdom Area Defense Counsel

ROYAL AIR FORCE STATION LAKENHEATH, England (UNS) -- It's no secret that the use or misuse of government-issued American Express travel cards is being closely scrutinized. Unfortunately, by the time people are referred to the area defense counsel, it's usually too late -- they've already misused the card in some way and are facing disciplinary action.

If you opt to accept the American Express card, it's important you know how to use it and understand what constitutes improper use. The instructions on its use contained in Air Force Instruction 65-104 changed recently to make it punitive in nature. In other words, violators of this instruction can now be charged for failure to obey a general regulation under Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Here's what constitutes unauthorized use of the government travel card:

- Use while not on official TDY. It's tempting for some to use the card to withdraw money from automatic teller machines when running low on cash. Unless you're TDY, don't do it. The card is to be used only for government travel -- not as a credit card.

- Improper use while TDY. People may only use the AMEX card when on official government orders. Even then, its uses are limited. Clearly, it

would be improper to purchase a stereo system, charge green fees or pay personal bills with your AMEX card. Also, even though you're entitled to pay for meals with the card while on official government travel, you can't pay for another person's meal on the card unless that person is listed on your orders. If you need to use the card in an emergency situation, such as to replace stolen, lost or destroyed clothing items while TDY, you should clear it with your squadron commander first.

- Failing to pay balance when due. Since the card isn't meant to be used as a credit card, payment in full is due upon receipt of the monthly statement.

A long TDY is no excuse for late payment. Call 1-602-492-4922 (collect), or 1-800-492-4990 if in the States, to make arrangements to pay monthly charges without getting your mail. Failing to pay the balance in full results in the account becoming delinquent, and your command is notified. Even if you've worked out a repayment plan with American Express, disciplinary action can be taken.

A lot can happen if the AMEX card is misused, and many Air Force members have



(U.S. Air Force image by Capt. John Pope)

Eulogy to the CNN Tower

by Maj. Dan "Elwood" Horack

Yes, folks, the rickety ole thing has met its demise. Thanks to the efforts of the TSgt. Mark "Pop Tart" Tarrt and Capt. Carol "Gabby" Thompson, the tower was felled at 1405L CET, June 21, 1996. A moment of silence was observed by order of Col. Dick Rozier, 4100th Group (P) Commander. "Times, they are a changin'....."

Command post expands capabilities

by Capt. John Pope

4100th Group (P) Public Affairs

Among the unsung heroes of any Air Force operation are the dedicated blue-suitors manning the local command post. The command post here at Tuzla AB has come a long way in the few short months the Air Force has been here and now offers most of the services that can be found at a base-level command post.

"We're becoming a command post that operates like a base command post, not just a provisional one," said MSgt. Thomas Swepson, chief, 4100th Group (P) command post.

The command post provides the commander a critical command and control capability in any contingency.

"Command and control is the control of all the resources the commander has access to," said Swepson. "He has one focal point he can contact for any

kind of mission, weather or security information, if there's a threat to the base, etc. We're also responsible to provide the Task Force Eagle commander information in the case of a threat to the base."

The command post has made several improvements in the last few weeks in its effort to equal any base-level command post.

"We've recently computerized all the data we track, streamlining the operation by more than 75 percent," said Swepson.

In addition, a training program has been set up to keep the four operators assigned to the command post current in all their functions.

The command post has also streamlined the way they pass information up the chain of command.

"Col. Rozier (4100th Group (P) Commander) wanted to be able to channel information all the way up the chain, like a normal base does. We've worked the procedure so we can up-channel information directly to USAFE, the Air Force and ultimately the white house in the event of an emergency," said Swepson.



THE Tuzla Times

Published for the men and women of the 4100th Group (P)

"The Wings of Task Force Eagle"

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Editorial Staff

Col. Dick Rozier

4100th Group (P) Commander

Capt. John Pope

Public Affairs Chief

SrA. Tom Haerr

Administrative Assistant



SrA. Chris Romanowski

4100th Security Police Flight (P)

Hometown: Clearwater, Fla.

Age: 25

Specialty: Security Specialist

Home Unit: 586th Security Police Flight, Ramstein AB, Germany

Time in service: Three years, four months

Time at Tuzla: Almost three months

Deployed mission: Security controller, response force leader, convoy M-60 gunner

Hobbies: Hockey, defensive handgun shooting

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

Most likely still as an SP in the Air Force

What do you like most about Tuzla?

I really like the experience of having the true mission of the security police being brought to the eyes of other Air Force people. I also like the cooperation and camaraderie between the Air Force agencies here.

What do you like the least? Being away from my wife, Laurie, my son, Taylor, and my dog, Mickey.

Commander's Independence Day Message

by *Gen. Michael E. Ryan*

Commander

U.S. Air Forces in Europe

For 220 years the United States has stood before the world as the symbol of freedom. Our country's great tradition of openness, equality and diversity has set the standard by which many nations measure themselves.

Each year we pause on July 4 to commemorate the anniversary of the singularly most important day in our nation's history -- the day the Declaration of Independence was signed. That document and the Constitution of the United States have prevailed more than two centuries to lift the hearts and hopes of millions of people worldwide.

The preservation of the ideals of the Declaration of Independence and the rights provided by the Constitution has carried a cost -- many Americans have given their lives in defense of our country and its freedoms. As members of America's armed forces we're charged

with defending the Constitution that guarantees our nation's rights and freedoms.

Our nation's distinction as freedom's standard bearer carries another cost familiar to each of you and your families. As a forward deployed force, you know well the work of assisting people of other countries to escape oppression and establish their own freedoms. Each day we illustrate our role as freedoms guardian.

As members of USAFE, you can take great pride in the contribution you make to the preservation of our country's freedom and the assistance you lend others

in their pursuit of similar freedoms. I can't imagine a job more rewarding than defending the greatest commodity on earth -- freedom -- and helping others gain the right to choose their own way of life. Grateful people across Europe have seen their lives changed by your diligent work and assistance.

There is plenty to celebrate during this holiday but, please, do it safely. Each of you is vitally important to the continued freedom of our country and others around the globe.

- USAFE News Service -



(U.S. Air Force image by Capt. John Pope)

Tuzla runway gets a facelift

A milling machine spits asphalt into a truck during recent runway repairs at Tuzla AB. In anticipation of the redeployment, many repairs are being made to the facilities under the watchful eyes of the 4100th Group (P) and Prime Beef.

Chief of staff expands morale call policy

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Calling home from overseas will be easier now since the Air Force chief of staff directed a change to the rules that govern the morale call program.

Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman stated in a June 17 message to the field that he asked for the changes to improve the "quality of life for our personnel and their families."

to go to the family support center at their base and call their husband or wife at their remote locations overseas," Hulseley said.

Additionally, morale calls can now be made during normal duty hours, the colonel said. However, people need to be aware that this is an Air Force policy and their theater commander's policy will take priority.

The number of calls people can make, and how often, also depends on the theater commander's policy, the colonel said.

The changes came about as a direct result of feedback about morale call problems given to Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force David J. Campanale by senior NCOs stationed in South Korea. The NCOs told Campanale that people in South Korea were having problems getting stateside base operators to connect their calls to local numbers, Hulseley said.

Since becoming the chief of staff, Fogleman has taken a personal interest in morale call issues. During a Thanksgiving trip to Panama in 1994, people told the chief they were having troubles getting stateside operators to transfer their morale calls during duty hours. By Dec. 5, 1994, major commands were told to adopt a more "liberal interpretation" of morale call guidelines.

And Fogleman promised to do more. In his message the general said, "We are also working with the joint staff and the other services to provide expanded accessibility to our members in the future" and said he would provide more guidance by Aug. 1.

He called for an immediate expansion of the Air Force policy for the use of the Defense Switched Network for morale calls. The changes apply to active duty members and Air Force civilians at remote locations or on temporary duty for more than 14 days.

"The biggest change to the policy is that it now provides expanded access to DSN lines for morale calls," said Lt. Col. Barney Hulseley, Air Force's chief of joint command, control, communications and computer policy.

Before, if adequate commercial telephone services were available, servicemembers could not use DSN lines for morale calls. "Now you can use DSN regardless of commercial telephone availability or adequacy.

"Another change is that now spouses will be allowed



(U.S. Air Force image by Capt. John Pope)

Taking the oath

So they've gone and done it...reenlisted that is. Congratulations to the following 4100th Group (P) members who took the plunge and reenlisted in the U.S. Air Force for another tour. From left to right: TSgt. Donald Smith, MSgt Ray Alwine, SrA. Scott Futrell and MSgt. Mark Klemcke. Col. Dick "Tarheel" Rozier, 4100th Group (P) Commander, administers the oath. Good luck, guys.

News Briefs

